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**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

**19 CFR Part 12**

**CBP Dec. 11-25**

**RIN 1515-AD84**

**IMPORT RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED ON CERTAIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND  
ETHNOLOGICAL MATERIAL FROM GREECE**

**AGENCIES:** U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security;  
Department of the Treasury.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This final rule amends the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regulations to reflect the imposition of import restrictions on certain archaeological and ethnological material from the Hellenic Republic (Greece). These restrictions are being imposed pursuant to an agreement between the United States and Greece that has been entered into under the authority of the Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act in accordance with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. The final rule amends CBP regulations by adding Greece to the list of countries for which a bilateral agreement has been entered into for imposing cultural property import restrictions. The

final rule also contains the designated list that describes the types of archaeological and ethnological articles to which the restrictions apply.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE **FEDERAL REGISTER**].

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For legal aspects, George Frederick McCray, Esq., Chief, Cargo Security, Carriers & Immigration Branch, Regulations and Rulings, Office of International Trade, (202) 325-0082. For operational aspects: Michael Craig, Chief, Interagency Requirements Branch, Trade Policy and Programs, Office of International Trade, (202) 863-6558.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

The value of cultural property, whether archaeological or ethnological in nature, is immeasurable. Such items often constitute the very essence of a society and convey important information concerning a people's origin, history, and traditional setting. The importance and popularity of such items regrettably makes them targets of theft, encourages clandestine looting of archaeological sites, and results in their illegal export and import.

The United States shares in the international concern for the need to protect endangered cultural property. The appearance in the United States of stolen or illegally exported artifacts from other countries where there has been pillage has, on occasion, strained our foreign and cultural relations. This situation, combined with the concerns of museum, archaeological, and scholarly communities, was recognized by the President

and Congress. It became apparent that it was in the national interest for the United States to join with other countries to control illegal trafficking of such articles in international commerce.

The United States joined international efforts and actively participated in deliberations resulting in the 1970 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (823 U.N.T.S. 231 (1972)). U.S. acceptance of the 1970 UNESCO Convention was codified into U.S. law as the “Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act” (Pub. L. 97-446, 19 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.) (the Act). This was done to promote U.S. leadership in achieving greater international cooperation towards preserving cultural treasures that are of importance to the nations from where they originate and contribute to greater international understanding of our common heritage.

Since the Act entered into force, import restrictions have been imposed on the archaeological and ethnological materials of a number of signatory nations. These restrictions have been imposed as a result of requests for protection received from those nations. More information on import restrictions can be found on the International Cultural Property Protection Web site (<http://exchanges.state.gov/heritage/culprop.html>).

This document announces that import restrictions are now being imposed on certain archaeological and ethnological materials from Greece.

### **Determinations**

Under 19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(1), the United States must make certain determinations before entering into an agreement to impose import restrictions under 19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(2). On July 12, 2011, the Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State, made the determinations required under the statute with respect to certain archaeological materials originating in Greece that are described in the designated list set forth below in this document. These determinations include the following: (1) That the cultural patrimony of Greece is in jeopardy from the pillage of archaeological materials representing Greece's cultural heritage from the Upper Paleolithic (beginning approximately 20,000 B.C.) through the 15<sup>th</sup> century A.D. and ecclesiastical ethnological material representing Greece's Byzantine culture (approximately the 4<sup>th</sup> century through the 15<sup>th</sup> century A.D.) (19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(1)(A)); (2) that the Greek government has taken measures consistent with the Convention to protect its cultural patrimony (19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(1)(B)); (3) that import restrictions imposed by the United States would be of substantial benefit in deterring a serious situation of pillage and remedies less drastic are not available (19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(1)(C)); and (4) that the application of import restrictions as set forth in this final rule is consistent with the general interests of the international community in the interchange of cultural property among nations for scientific, cultural, and educational purposes (19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(1)(D)). The Assistant Secretary also found that the materials described in the determinations meet the statutory definition of "archaeological or ethnological material of the state party" (19 U.S.C. 2601(2)).

### **The Agreement**

On July 17, 2011, the United States and Greece entered into a bilateral agreement pursuant to the provisions of 19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(2). Following completion of all internal legal requirements by the governments of Greece and the United States, the agreement entered into force on November 21, 2011, with the exchange of diplomatic notes. The agreement enables the promulgation of import restrictions on certain archaeological materials representing Greece's cultural heritage from the Upper Paleolithic (beginning approximately 20,000 B.C.) through the 15<sup>th</sup> century A.D. and ecclesiastical ethnological material representing Greece's Byzantine culture (approximately the 4<sup>th</sup> century through the 15<sup>th</sup> century A.D.) In this document, CBP announces that import restrictions are now being imposed on certain archaeological and ethnological materials from Greece for a period of 5 years from the date the bilateral agreement between the United States and Greece entered into force. Accordingly, CBP is amending 19 CFR 12.104g(a) to reflect this imposition of import restrictions.

A list of the categories of archaeological and ethnological materials subject to the import restrictions (the Designated List) is set forth later in this document

### **Restrictions and Amendment to the Regulations**

In accordance with the Agreement, importation of materials designated below are subject to the restrictions of 19 U.S.C. 2606 and § 12.104g(a) of the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regulations (19 CFR 12.104g(a)) and will be restricted from entry into the United States unless the conditions set forth in 19 U.S.C. 2606 and § 12.104c of the regulations (19 CFR 12.104c) are met. CBP is amending § 12.104g(a) of the CBP regulations (19 CFR 12.104g(a)) to indicate that these import restrictions have been imposed.

## **Designated List of Material Encompassed in Import Restrictions**

The bilateral agreement between the United States and Greece includes, but is not limited to, the categories of objects described in the designated list set forth below.

These categories of objects are subject to the import restrictions set forth above, in accordance with the above explained applicable law and the regulation amended in this document (19 CFR 12.104(g)(a)). The import restrictions cover complete objects and fragments thereof.

### **I. Archaeological Material**

The archaeological materials represent the following periods, styles, and cultures:

Upper Paleolithic, Neolithic, Minoan, Cycladic, Helladic, Mycenaean, Submycenaean, Geometric, Orientalizing, Archaic, Classical, Hellenistic, Roman, and Byzantine.

#### **A. Stone**

##### **1. Sculpture**

- a. **Architectural Elements** -- In marble, limestone, gypsum, and other kinds of stone. Types include acroterion, antefix, architrave, base, capital, caryatid, coffer, column, crowning, fountain, frieze, pediment, pilaster, mask, metope, mosaic and inlay, jamb, tile, triglyph, tympanum, basin, wellhead. Approximate date: 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C. to 15th century A.D.
- b. **Monuments** -- In marble, limestone, and other kinds of stone. Types include menhir, "horns of consecration," votive statues, funerary and votive stelae, and bases and base revetments. These may be painted,

carved with relief sculpture, and/or carry dedicatory or funerary inscriptions. Approximate date: 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C. to 15th century A.D.

- c. **Sarcophagi** -- In marble, limestone, and other kinds of stone. Some have figural scenes painted on them, others have figural scenes carved in relief, and some just have decorative moldings. Approximate date: 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C. to 15th century A.D.
- d. **Large Statuary** -- Primarily in marble, also in limestone and sandstone, including fragments of statues. Subject matter includes human and animal figures and groups of figures in the round. Common types are large-scale, free-standing statuary from approximately 1 m to 2.5 m in height and life-size busts (head and shoulders of an individual). The style may be naturalistic, as in the Classical Period, highly stylized, as in the Bronze Age culture of the Cyclades, or somewhere in between. Approximate date: 4<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. to 15th century A.D.
- e. **Small Statuary and Figurines** -- In marble and other stone. Subject matter includes human and animal figures and groups of figures in the round. These range from approximately 10 cm to 1 m in height. The style may be naturalistic, as in the Classical Period, highly stylized, as in the Bronze Age culture of the Cyclades, or somewhere in between. Approximate date: 20,000 B.C. to 15th century A.D.

- f. **Reliefs** -- In marble and other stone. Types include carved slabs with figural, vegetative, floral, or decorative motifs, sometimes inscribed, and carved relief vases. Used for architectural decoration, funerary, votive, or commemorative monuments. Approximate date: 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C. to 15th century A.D.
  - g. **Furniture** -- In marble and other stone. Types include tables, thrones, and beds. Approximate date: 12<sup>th</sup> century B.C. to 15th century A.D.
2. **Vessels** – In marble, steatite, rock crystal, and other stone. These may belong to conventional shapes such as bowls, cups, jars, jugs, and lamps, or may occur in the shape of an animal or part of an animal. Approximate date: 7<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. to 15th century A.D.
  3. **Tools and Weapons** – In flint/chert, obsidian, and other hard stones. Chipped stone types include blades, small blades, borers, scrapers, sickles, cores, and arrow heads. Ground stone types include grinders (e.g., mortars, pestles, millstones, whetstones), choppers, axes, hammers, and mace heads. Approximate date: 20,000 B.C. to 15th century B.C.
  4. **Seals and beads** – In marble, limestone, and various semiprecious stones including rock crystal, amethyst, jasper, agate, steatite, and carnelian. Approximate date: 6<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. to 12<sup>th</sup> century B.C.

## B. Metal

### 1. Sculpture

- a. **Large Statuary** -- Primarily in bronze, including fragments of statues. Subject matter includes human and animal figures and groups of

figures in the round. Common types are large-scale, free-standing statuary from approximately 1 m to 2.5 m in height and life-size busts (head and shoulders of an individual). Approximate date: 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium to 324 A.D.

- b. **Small Statuary and Figurines** -- Subject matter includes human and animal figures, groups of figures in the round, masks, and plaques. These range from approximately 10 cm to 1 m in height. Approximate date: 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C. to 324 A.D.
- c. **Inscribed or Decorated Sheet Metal** – In bronze or lead. Engraved inscriptions, “curse tablets,” and thin metal sheets with engraved or impressed designs often used as attachments to furniture.

Approximate date: 4<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. to 15th century A.D.

- 2. **Vessels** – In bronze, gold, and silver. These may belong to conventional shapes such as bowls, cups, jars, jugs, strainers, cauldrons, and lamps, or may occur in the shape of an animal or part of an animal. Approximate date: 5<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. to 15th century A.D.
- 3. **Personal Ornaments** – In bronze, gold, and silver. Types include rings, beads, pendants, belts, belt buckles, earrings, diadems, spangles, straight and safety pins, necklace, mirror, wreath, cuff. Approximate date: 7<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. to 15th century A.D.
- 4. **Tools** – In copper, bronze and iron. Types include hooks, weights, axes, scrapers, (strigils), trowels, keys and the tools of craftspersons such as

carpenters, masons and metal smiths. Approximate date: 4<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. to 15th century A.D.

5. **Weapons and Armor** – In copper, bronze and iron. Types include both launching weapons (spears and javelins) and weapons for hand-to-hand combat (swords, daggers, etc.). Armor includes body armor, such as helmets, cuirasses, shin guards, and shields, and horse armor often decorated with elaborate engraved, embossed, or perforated designs. Approximate date: 6<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. to 30 B.C.
6. **Seals** – In lead, tin, copper, bronze, silver, and gold. Types include rings, amulets, and seals with shank. Approximate date: Approximate date: 4<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. to 15th century A.D.
7. **Coins** – Many of the mints of the listed coins can be found in B.V. Head, Historia Numorum: A Manual of Greek Numismatics (London, 1911) and C.M. Kraay, Archaic and Classical Greek Coins (London, 1976). Many of the Roman provincial mints in Greece are listed in A. Burnett et al., Roman Provincial Coinage I: From the Death of Caesar to the Death of Vitellius (44 BC-AD 69) (London, 1992) and id., Roman Provincial Coinage II: From Vespasian to Domitian (AD 69-96) (London, 1999).
  - a. **Greek Bronze Coins** – Struck by city-states, leagues, and kingdoms that operated in territory of the modern Greek state (including the ancient territories of the Peloponnese, Central Greece, Thessaly, Epirus, Crete and those parts of the territories of ancient Macedonia, Thrace and the Aegean islands that lay within the boundaries of the

modern Greek state). Approximate date: 5<sup>th</sup> century B.C. to late 1<sup>st</sup> century B.C.

- b. **Greek Silver Coins** – This category includes the small denomination coins of the city-states of Aegina, Athens, and Corinth, and the Kingdom of Macedonia under Philip II and Alexander the Great. Such coins weigh less than approximately 10 grams and are known as obols, diobols, triobols, hemidrachms, and drachms. Also included are all denominations of coins struck by the other city-states, leagues, and kingdoms that operated in the territory of the modern Greek state (including the ancient territories of the Peloponnese, Central Greece, Thessaly, Epirus, Crete, and those parts of the territories of ancient Macedonia, Thrace and the Aegean islands that lie within the boundaries of the modern Greek state). Approximate date: 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C. to late 1<sup>st</sup> century B.C.
- c. **Roman Coins Struck in Greece** – In silver and bronze, struck at Roman and Roman provincial mints that operated in the territory of the modern Greek state (including the ancient territories of the Peloponnese, Central Greece, Thessaly, Epirus, Crete, and those parts of the territories of ancient Macedonia, Thrace and the Aegean islands that lie within the boundaries of the modern Greek state). Approximate date: late 2<sup>nd</sup> century B.C. to 3<sup>rd</sup> century A.D.

## C. Ceramic

### 1. Sculpture

- a. **Architectural Elements** - Baked clay (terracotta) elements used to decorate buildings. Elements include acroteria, antefixes, painted and relief plaques, metopes, cornices, roof tiles, and revetments.  
Approximate date: 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C. to 30 B.C.
- b. **Large Statuary** - Subject matter includes human and animal figures and groups of figures in the round. Common types are large-scale, free-standing statuary from approximately 1 m to 2.5 m in height and life-size busts (head and shoulders of an individual). Approximate date: 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C. to 30 B.C.
- c. **Small Statuary** - Subject matter is varied and includes human and animal figures, human body parts, groups of figures in the round, shrines, houses, and chariots. Includes Mycenaean and later Tanagra figurines. These range from approximately 10 cm to 1 m in height.  
Approximate date: 7<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. to 324 A.D.
- d. **Sarcophagi** – Block- or tub-shaped chests, often painted, known as *larnax* (plural, larnakes). Approximate date: 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C. to 30 B.C.

## 2. Vessels

- a. **Neolithic Pottery** – Handmade, often decorated with a lustrous burnish, decorated with appliqué and/or incision, sometimes with added paint. These come in a variety of shapes from simple bowls and vases with three or four legs to handled scoops and large storage jars.  
Approximate date: 7<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. – 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C.

- b. **Minoan, Cycladic, and Mycenaean Pottery** – Handmade and wheelmade pottery in shapes for tableware, serving, storing, and processing, with lustrous burnished, matte, appliqué, incised, and painted decoration; includes local styles such as Kamares ware, Pictorial Style, and extraordinary shapes such as “frying pans” and “kernoi.” Approximate dates: 4<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. to 12<sup>th</sup> century B.C.
- c. **“Submycenaean” and Pottery of the Geometric Period (including “sub-Geometric”).** – Handmade and wheelmade pottery that succeeds the styles of the Late Bronze Age and is produced in decorated and undecorated styles, often reflecting that of the Late Bronze Age but predominately using compasses for circles and linear “geometric” decoration, as well as schematic representations of humans, animals and birds. Approximate dates: 12<sup>th</sup> century B.C. to 7<sup>th</sup> century B.C.
- d. **Attic Black Figure, Red Figure and White Ground Pottery** - These are made in a specific set of shapes (e.g. amphorae, kraters, hydriae, oinochoi, kylikes) decorated with black painted figures on a clear clay ground (Black Figure), decorative elements in reserve with background fired black (Red Figure), and multi-colored figures painted on a white ground (White Ground). Approximate date: 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C. to 4<sup>th</sup> century B.C.
- e. **Corinthian Pottery** - Painted pottery made in Corinth in a specific range of shapes for perfume and unguents and for drinking or pouring liquids. The very characteristic painted and incised designs depict

human and animal figural scenes, rows of animals, and floral decoration. Approximate date: 8<sup>th</sup> century B.C. to 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C.

- f. **West Slope Ware** – This ware is named after a type of pottery from the west slope of the Athenian Acropolis. It has a black-glaze with relief and polychrome decoration and was produced first in Athens in the fourth century B.C., but the style is also manufactured elsewhere, such as at Corinth, Macedonia and Crete down to the first century. Approximate date: 4<sup>th</sup> century – 1<sup>st</sup> century B.C.

- g. **Byzantine Pottery** – Includes undecorated plain wares, utilitarian, tableware, serving and storage jars, special shapes such as pilgrim flasks. and can be matte painted or glazed, including incised “sgraffito” and stamped with elaborate polychrome decorations using floral, geometric, human, and animal motifs; it is generally locally manufactured, though places like Corinth were major producers. Approximate date: 324 A.D. to 15th century.

3. **Inscriptions** – These are typically unbaked and should be handled with extreme care, even when hard-fired through accidental burning. They typically take the form of tablets shaped like leaves or rectangular or square and they are often lined, with incised, and sometimes stamped, characters known as “Linear A” and “Linear B.” Approximate date: 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium B.C. to 12<sup>th</sup> century B.C.

#### **D. Bone, Ivory, and other Organics**

1. **Small Statuary and figurines** -- Subject matter includes human and animal figures and groups of figures in the round. These range from approximately 10 cm to 1 m in height. Approximate date: 7<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. to 15th century A.D.
2. **Personal Ornaments** – In bone, ivory, and spondylus shell. Types include amulets, combs, pins, spoons, small containers, bracelets, buckles, and beads. Approximate date: 7<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. to 15th century A.D.
3. **Seals and Stamps** – Small devices with at least one side engraved with a design for stamping or sealing; they can be discoid, cuboid, conoid, or in the shape of animals or fantastic creatures (e.g. a scarab). Approximate date: 7<sup>th</sup> millennium B.C. – 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium B.C.
4. **Musical instruments** - In bone, ivory and tortoise shell. Types include pipe and flute. Approximate date: 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C. to 15th century A.D.
5. **Vessels** made of ostrich egg shell. Approximate date: 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C. – 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium B.C.

#### **E. Glass and Faience**

1. **Vessels** – Shapes include small jars, bowls, animal shaped, goblet, spherical, candle holders, perfume jars (unguentaria). Approximate date: 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium to 15th century A.D.
2. **Beads** – Globular and relief beads. Approximate date: 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium B.C.

#### **F. Textile** -- Clothing or fragments of clothing or carpets or cloth for hanging.

Approximate date: 1100 B.C. to 15th century A.D.

**G. Papyrus Documents** – Documents made from papyrus and written upon in ink; these are often rolled, fragmentary, and should be handled with extreme care.

Approximately 7<sup>th</sup> century B.C. to 324 A.D.

## **H. Paintings**

1. **Domestic and Public Wall Painting** – These are painted on mudplaster, lime plaster (wet – buon fresco-- and dry—secco fresco); types include simple applied color, bands and borders, landscapes, scenes of people and/or animals in natural or built settings. Approximate date: 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C. – 324 A.D.
2. **Tomb Paintings** – Paintings on plaster or stone, sometimes geometric or floral but usually depicting gods, goddesses, or funerary scenes. Approximate date: 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium B.C. to 500 A.D.
3. **Panel Paintings** on wood depicting gods, goddesses, or funerary scenes. Approximate date: 1<sup>st</sup> millennium B.C. to 324 A.D.

**I. Mosaics** -- Floor mosaics including landscapes, scenes of humans or gods, and activities such as hunting and fishing. There may also be vegetative, floral, or decorative motifs. Approximate date: 5<sup>th</sup> century B.C. to 500 A.D.

## **II. Byzantine Ecclesiastical Ethnological Material**

The ecclesiastical ethnological materials represent the Early Christian and Byzantine periods and include objects made from 324 A.D. through the 15<sup>th</sup> century A.D.

### **A. Stone**

1. **Architectural elements** – In marble and other stone, including upright “closure” slabs, circular marking slabs omphalion, which may be decorated with crosses, human, or animal figures.
2. **Monuments** – In marble and other stone; types such as funerary inscriptions.
3. **Vessels** – Containers for holy water.
4. **Reliefs** – Carved as icons in which religious figures predominate in the figural decoration.

## **B. Metal**

1. **Reliefs** – Cast as icons in which religious figures predominate in the figural decoration.
2. **Boxes** – Containers of gold and silver, used as reliquaries for sacred human remains.
3. **Vessels** – Containers of lead, which carried aromatic oils and are called “pilgrim flasks.”
4. **Ceremonial paraphernalia** – In bronze, silver, and gold including censers (incense burners), book covers, liturgical crosses, archbishop's crowns, buckles, and chests. These are often decorated with molded or incised geometric motifs or scenes from the Bible, and encrusted with semi-precious or precious stones. The gems themselves may be engraved with religious figures or inscriptions. Ecclesiastical treasure may include all of the above, as well as rings, earrings, and necklaces (some decorated with ecclesiastical themes) and other implements (e.g., spoons).

## **C. Ceramic**

Vessels which carried aromatic oils and are called “pilgrim flasks.”

#### **D. Bone And Ivory Objects**

Ceremonial paraphernalia including boxes, reliquaries (and their contents), plaques, pendants, candelabra, stamp rings, crosses. Carved and engraved decoration includes religious figures, scenes from the Bible, and floral and geometric designs.

#### **E. Wood**

Wooden objects include architectural elements such as painted wood screens (iconstasis), carved doors, crosses, painted wooden beams from churches or monasteries, furniture such as thrones, chests and other objects, including musical instruments. Religious figures predominate in the painted and carved figural decoration. Ecclesiastical furniture and architectural elements may also be decorated with geometric or floral designs.

#### **F. Glass**

Vessels of glass include lamps and candle sticks.

#### **G. Textile**

Robes, vestments and altar clothes are often of a fine fabric and richly embroidered in silver and gold. Embroidered designs include religious motifs and floral and geometric designs.

#### **H. Parchment**

Documents such as illuminated manuscripts occur in single leaves or bound as a book or “codex.” and are written or painted on animal skins (cattle, sheep/goat, camel) known as parchment.

**I. Painting**

1. **Wall paintings** – On various kinds of plaster and which generally portray religious images and scenes of Biblical events. Surrounding paintings may contain animal, floral, or geometric designs, including borders and bands.
2. **Panel Paintings (Icons)** – Smaller versions of the scenes on wall paintings, and may be partially covered with gold or silver, sometimes encrusted with semi-precious or precious stones and are usually painted on a wooden panel, often for inclusion in a wooden screen (iconostasis).

**J. Mosaics**

Wall mosaics generally portray religious images and scenes of Biblical events. Surrounding panels may contain animal, floral, or geometric designs. They are made from stone and glass cut into small bits (tesserae) and laid into a plaster matrix.

**INAPPLICABILITY OF NOTICE AND DELAYED EFFECTIVE DATE**

This amendment involves a foreign affairs function of the United States and is, therefore, being made without notice or public procedure (5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1)). For the same reason, a delayed effective date is not required under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3).

**REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ACT**

Because no notice of proposed rulemaking is required, the provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) do not apply.

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 12866**

Because this rule involves a foreign affairs function of the United States, it is not subject to Executive Order 12866.

### **SIGNING AUTHORITY**

This regulation is being issued in accordance with 19 CFR 0.1(a)(1).

### **LIST OF SUBJECTS IN 19 CFR PART 12**

Cultural property, Customs duties and inspection, Imports, Prohibited merchandise, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

### **AMENDMENT TO CBP REGULATIONS**

For the reasons set forth above, part 12 of Title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR part 12), is amended as set forth below:

### **PART 12--SPECIAL CLASSES OF MERCHANDISE**

1. The general authority citation for part 12 and the specific authority citation for § 12.104g continue to read as follows:

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. 301; 19 U.S.C. 66, 1202 (General Note 3(i), Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS)), 1624;

\* \* \* \* \*

Sections 12.104 through 12.104i also issued under 19 U.S.C. 2612;

\* \* \* \* \*

2. In § 12.104g, paragraph (a), the table is amended by adding Greece (Hellenic Republic) to the list in appropriate alphabetical order as follows:

**§ 12.104g Specific items or categories designated by agreements or emergency actions.**

(a) \* \* \*

State Party	Cultural Property	Decision No.
<p>* * * *</p> <p>Greece (Hellenic Republic).....</p> <p>* * * *</p>	<p>* *</p> <p>Archaeological materials representing Greece's cultural heritage from the Upper Paleolithic (beginning approximately 20,000 B.C.) through the 15<sup>th</sup> century A.D. and ecclesiastical ethnological material representing Greece's Byzantine culture (approximately the 4<sup>th</sup> century through the 15<sup>th</sup> century A.D.)</p> <p>* *</p>	<p>*</p> <p>CBP Dec. 11-25</p> <p>*</p>

\* \* \* \*

Alan D. Bersin  
Commissioner  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Approved: November 28, 2011

Timothy E. Skud  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury

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